
Masking in Young Children

Mary Rhee, MD
Stephanie Nguyen Lai, MD



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Masking in Young Children

- A review of policies
 - American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
 - Center for Disease Control (CDC)
 - California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- Why should young children mask?
 - Summary of data
 - Why young kids should mask?
 - Testimonials from a local preschool



Masking Policies In Young Children

1. Based on the early assumption that they don't get sick and don't transmit covid-19
2. Idea that young children will have difficulties with masking
3. Focused on the risks of incorrect masking techniques
4. Provided many exceptions
5. Susceptible to interpretation which led to variable translation by individual schools and childcare facilities

AAP Guidance August 13,2020

“During the COVID-19 pandemic, plans for the safe return of children to school, child care, and other group settings must include the universal use of cloth face coverings by children 2 years of age and older and the adults with whom they interact.”



CDC Masking Guidelines

“People age 2 and older should wear masks in public settings and when around people who don’t live in their household.”



CA State and SM County Masking Guidelines

California Department of Public Health -
November 16, 2020

- “It’s now required that everyone in California must wear a mask or face covering when outside of their home, with limited exceptions”
- **Masking is required in 2 and older**
- NOT included in exceptions is childcare, preschool, or school

San Mateo County Health - December 8, 2020

Health Alert - Community Interventions to Limit Surge of COVID-19:

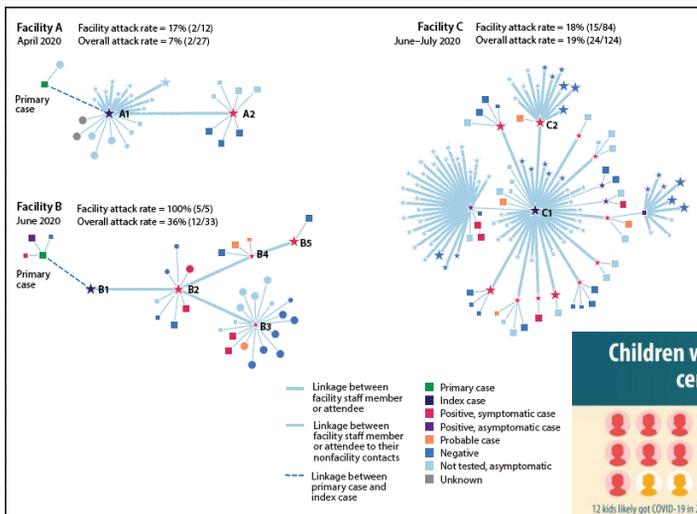
- Schools and preschools require masks > 2 years of age

Pediatric Covid Data

- **Over 3 million** pediatric COVID-19 cases reported, **13%** of total cases
- Hospitalization rate is **0.1-2.3%**
- **227** pediatrics deaths due to COVID-19
- Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C): **2006 cases**
- **Over 80,118** cases of children < 5 years old in California, **2.4%** of total cases
- Long-term consequences unknown, may include cardiac, neurologic, and pulmonary disease

Why should young children mask?

- Children can both be infected by COVID-19 and spread to others
- Masks protect others as well as wearers
- Children are often asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic
- Outbreaks have been reports in daycares, schools, and camps



Children who likely got COVID-19 at two Utah child care centers spread it to household members

12 kids likely got COVID-19 in 2 child care centers; 3 didn't have symptoms

12 people who had contact with the children outside the child care centers got infected* including some parents and siblings

1 parent required hospitalization

*Confirmed or probable

SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN CHILD CARE CENTERS

Test contacts of patients with COVID-19

Wash hands frequently

Stay home when sick

Encourage adults and children 2 years and older to wear masks

Clean and disinfect frequently

CDC.GOV
bit.ly/MMWR91120
MMWR

Why should young children mask?

- Masks protect others as well as wearers
- Children mildly symptomatic
- Children can both be infected by COVID-19 and spread to others
- Outbreaks have been reports in daycares, schools, and camps
- Prevention of other respiratory illnesses
- **They can do it!**



Testimonial from
Michelle Hsing,
 Director of
 Children's World
 Bilingual
 Montessori
 School

*Photo featuring
 2-6 year old
 children*





Bibliography

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